

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1604 – HB 2534

March 7, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Division of Parks and Recreation to designate one weekend per year, instead of one day, to allow free of charge access to all state parks including campgrounds and golf courses for veterans.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Revenue – Exceeds \$10,700

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code. Ann. § 58-3-112, one day per year is currently allowed free of charge to veterans for use of all state parks including campgrounds and golf courses.
- Based on the information provided by the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), \$7,032 (\$6,408 golf + \$623.50 camping) is not currently collected on the free day for veterans in state parks.
- Passage of this bill will allow veterans the free use of state parks, including golf courses and camping, over one weekend period.
- According to TDEC, the average amount of camping fees over a weekend is approximately \$55,887 and the average amount of golf fees is approximately \$50,639.
- It is reasonable to presume that some individuals that would otherwise pay a fee over the weekend to use a state park or golf course in the absence of this bill will be displaced by veterans electing to do so under the provisions of this bill because of a limited capacity that tends to occur more on a weekend. A good example would be the limited capacity for tee times at golf courses and the limited availability of camping sites in state parks.
- Assuming at least 10 percent of paying customers would be displaced by non-paying veterans pursuant to the provisions of the bill, the recurring decrease in state fee revenue is estimated to exceed \$10,653 $[(\$55,887 + \$50,639) \times 10.0\%]$.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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